

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A media distribution device for selectively delivering media content to a media presentation device, the media distribution device comprising:

a media adapter for receiving a full stream of media content from a media delivery service provider;

a data adapter for receiving data from the media delivery service provider;

a local account data module containing an identification of a portion of the full stream of media content wherein only the portion is available for delivery to the media presentation device; and

a local account manager capable of being locally accessed and operative to modify the identification of the portion available for delivery to the media presentation device without modification to the full stream of media content received from the media delivery service provider at the media adapter, wherein the local account manager, during an off-peak period, is further operative to autonomously check the local account data module to determine whether local account data has been modified since a last update to a centralized customer database associated with the media delivery service provider and, if so, then set an account modification flag to indicate the need to transmit the modified local account data, package the modified local account data in the local account data module module, and transmit the modified local account data to the media delivery service provider, thereby enabling the media delivery service provider to update the centralized customer database to reflect the modified local account data; and

~~a network management protocol agent to coordinate communications between the media distribution device and the media delivery service provider wherein the coordinated communications between the media distribution device and the media delivery service provider occur at an off-peak time;~~

wherein the local account manager provides a customer access to media content that is part of an account of the customer and blocks access to media content that is not part of the account while the full stream of media content received at the media distribution device still includes the media content that is not part of the account and is unavailable to the media presentation device thereby allowing the media distribution device to instantaneously deliver to the media presentation device only the portion that is part of the account without requiring a change to the account via interaction with a central customer account management center.

2. (Original) The media distribution device of Claim 1, wherein the media content is delivered over a communication link between the media distribution device and a media delivery service provider.

3. (Original) The media distribution device of Claim 1, wherein the communication link is a broadband connection.

4. (Original) The media distribution device of Claim 3, wherein the broadband connection is an asymmetric digital subscriber line.

5. (Original) The media distribution device of Claim 1, wherein the communication link is a satellite connection.

6. (Original) The media distribution device of Claim 1, wherein the local account manager can be remotely controlled.

7. (Original) The media distribution device of Claim 1, wherein the local account manager can be remotely accessed.

8. (Original) The media distribution device of Claim 7, wherein the local account manager can be remotely accessed via the media adapter.

9. (Original) The media distribution device of Claim 7, wherein the local account manager can be remotely accessed via the data adapter.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) The media distribution device of Claim 1, wherein the local account data module can be transmitted to the media delivery service provider.

12. (Previously presented) The media distribution device of Claim 1, wherein the media delivery service provider is operative to store the local account data module.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The media distribution device of Claim 1, further comprising a user interface whereby the local account manager can be locally accessed.

15. (Original) The media distribution device of Claim 14, wherein the user interface is provided via the media presentation device.

16. (Currently amended) A media distribution system operative to selectively deliver media content to a media presentation device of a customer, the media distribution system comprising:

a media delivery service provider operative to transmit a media content stream to a media distribution device;

a customer account database, remote from the media distribution device, for maintaining a central account associated with the media distribution device, the central account identifying a portion of the media content stream that is selected for delivery to the media presentation device;

a local account data module for maintaining a local account identifying the portion of the media content stream that is selected for delivery to the media presentation device; and

a local account manager, local to the media distribution device, for modifying the portion of the media content stream identified in the local account data module, wherein the local account manager, during an off-peak period, is operative to autonomously check the local account data module to determine whether local account data has been modified since a last update to a centralized customer database associated with the media delivery service provider and, if so, then set an account modification flag to indicate the need to transmit the modified local account data, package the modified local account data in the local account data module, and transmit the modified local account data to the media delivery service provider, thereby enabling the media delivery service provider to update the centralized customer database to reflect the modified local account data; and

~~a network management protocol agent to coordinate communications between the media distribution device and the media delivery service provider, wherein the coordinated communications between the media distribution device and the media delivery service provider occur at an off-peak time;~~

wherein the media distribution device delivers to the media presentation device the portion of the media content stream modified by the local account manager and identified by the local account data module without any immediate changes to the media content stream received at the media distribution device from the media delivery service provider thereby allowing the customer to receive instantaneous delivery of only the portion of the media content that is part of the local account.

17. (Original) The media delivery system of Claim 16, wherein the local account manager is operative to autonomously transmit the local account data module to the media delivery service provider for storage as the central account after delivering the modified portion of the media content stream to the media presentation device.

18. (Original) The media delivery system of Claim 17, wherein the local account data module is transmitted to the media delivery service provider over an asymmetric digital subscriber line.

19. (Original) The media delivery system of Claim 16, wherein the media

delivery service provider transmits the media stream to the media distribution device over an asymmetric digital subscriber line.

20. (Currently amended) A method for filtering a media content stream in accordance with subscriber preferences, the method comprising:

- receiving the subscriber preferences;
- accessing a local stored account data module;
- modifying the local stored account data module in accordance with the received subscriber preferences;

- autonomously checking the local stored account data module during an off-peak period to determine whether local account data has been modified since a last update to a centralized customer database associated with a media delivery service provider and, if so, then

- setting an account modification flag to indicate the need to transmit the modified local account data;

- packaging the modified local account data in the local stored account data module; and

- transmitting the modified local account data to the media delivery service provider, thereby enabling the media delivery service provider to update the centralized customer database to reflect the modified local account data;

- delivering a portion of the media content stream to a media presentation device, wherein the delivered portion of the media content stream is defined by the local stored account data module;

- locally blocking a portion of the media content stream not defined by the local stored account data module from the media presentation device without changing the media content stream received from the media delivery service provider; and

- transmitting the local stored account data module to update a central account management center after delivering the portion of the media content stream to the media presentation device thereby instantaneously delivering to the media presentation device only the portion defined by the local account data without requiring prior interaction with the central customer account management center, ~~wherein transmitting the local stored~~

~~account data module is coordinated by using a network management protocol agent such that the transmitting occurs at an off peak time.~~

21. (Previously presented) The media distribution device of Claim 1, wherein when the local account manager modifies the identification of a portion of the full stream of media content, delivery of media content to the media presentation device is immediately altered without requiring access to or authorization from the media delivery service provider whereby customer account information maintained by the media delivery service provider can be reconciled with the local account data module at a later time.

22. (Previously presented) The media delivery system of Claim 16, wherein the media distribution device blocks from being available to the media presentation device portions of the media content stream not identified by the local account data module without any immediate changes to the media content stream transmitted by the media delivery service provider.

23. (Previously presented) The media distribution device of claim 1, wherein the network management protocol agent comprises a simple network management protocol agent.